AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 Attorney Docket No.: Q86396

Application No.: 10/537,698

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended): A natural rubber obtained from a natural rubber latex in

which glucans contained in the latex are decomposed, wherein enzyme treatment with an

α-amylase and/or a cellulase is carried out for the decomposition of the glucans, wherein only

glucans which are non-rubber components are separable and removed.

10. (original): A rubber composition using the natural rubber as described in claim 9.

11. (original): A tire characterized by using the rubber composition as described in

claim 10.

12. (currently amended): A production process for a natural rubber, wherein it is

produced by subjecting a natural rubber latex to enzyme treatment with an $\alpha\text{-amylase}$ and/or a

cellulase to decompose glucans contained therein, wherein only glucans which are non-rubber

components are separable and removed.

(original): The production process for a natural rubber as described in claim 12,

wherein the enzyme treatment is carried out at a temperature of 70°C or lower.

2

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 Attorney Docket No.: Q86396

Application No.: 10/537,698

14. (previously presented): The production process for a natural rubber as described

in claim 12, wherein treatment with a surfactant is carried out in addition to the enzyme

treatment.

15.-19. (canceled).

20. (previously presented): The production process for a natural rubber as described

in claim 13, wherein treatment with a surfactant is carried out in addition to the enzyme

treatment.

3